

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An improved composition for whitening a tooth surface[[,]] ~~which composition produced by a method comprising comprises:~~

applying to the tooth surface a stable pH primer solution ~~itself~~ comprising hypochlorite and having a pH greater than about 8.5 to about 13; and then applying to the tooth surface a tooth whitening composition ~~itself~~ comprising peroxide, ~~said tooth whitening composition having been added to said primer solution after said primer solution is applied to said tooth surface.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The improved composition of Claim 1 wherein in the primer solution has a pH of between about 8.5 and 12.

3. (Previously Presented) The improved composition of Claim 1 wherein the hypochlorite is selected from the group consisting of sodium hypochlorite, potassium hypochlorite, calcium hypochlorite, barium hypochlorite, and combinations thereof.

4. (Previously Presented) The improved composition of Claim 1 wherein the peroxide is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen peroxide, sodium peroxide, potassium peroxide, carbamide peroxide, sodium perborate, sodium percarbonate, and combinations thereof.

5. (Original) The improved composition of Claim 1 wherein the peroxide is hydrogen peroxide.

6. (Original) The improved composition of Claim 1 wherein the hypochlorite is sodium hypochlorite.

7-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) An improved composition for whitening a tooth surface, ~~which the~~ composition comprising comprises:

(a) a stable pH primer solution ~~itself~~ comprising hypochlorite and having a pH greater than about 8.5 to about 13 which is present in a concentration of between about 0.1 and 5 weight % of the total composition, said primer solution being configured to ~~synergistically~~ enhance performance of a tooth whitening composition applied to said tooth surface after application of said primer solution; and

(b) a flavoring agent in an amount of between about 0.001 and 5% by weight of the total composition.

22. (Currently Amended) The improved composition of Claim 21 wherein the flavoring agent is selected from the group consisting of, ~~but is not limited to~~ mint, oil of wintergreen, oil of peppermint, oil of spearmint, clove bund oil, menthol, anethole, methyl salicylate, eucalyptol, cassia, 1-menthyl acetate, sage, eugenol, parsley oil, oxanone, alpha-irisone, marjoram, lemon, orange, propenyl guaethol, cinnamon, vanillin, thymol, linalool, cinnamaldehyde glycerol acetal, and mixtures thereof.

23-24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) The improved composition of Claim 21 wherein said primer solution is further configured to enhance said performance of said tooth whitening composition applied to said tooth surface after application of said primer solution by disrupting a pellicle of said tooth.